M/s. Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company Ltd. (Mahyco), Mumbai for seed production and large scale trials of nine Bt. Cotton varieties containing cry 1 AC and cry 1 Ab stacked genes. The varieties permitted are MRC-7301 BG II, MRC-7326 BG II, MRC-7351 BG II, MRC-7341 BG II and MRC-7347 in the Central zone and MRC-7160 BG-II, MRC-7201 BG-II, MRC-7351 BG-II and MRC-7347 BG-II in the south zone during Kharif 2005.

(c) and (d) The GEAC has also approved commercial release of MRC 6304 Bt. MRC-6301 Bt. MRC-6322 Bt. and MRC-6918 Bt. containing cry 1 Ac gene developed by M/s. Mahyco for a period of three years.

National River Conservation Plan

556. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that action plan under National River Conservation Plan is implemented by National River Conservation Directorate of his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of action taken to improve the water quality of rivers during last three years and the amount spent on each work;

(c) the action plan to be taken during 2005-2006 and proposed to be taken during 2006-07; and

(d) whether the cost of work is borne by the Central Government or shared by State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), various pollution abatement works are undertaken for improving the quality of water in major rivers, such as Interception and Diversion (I&D) of Sewage, setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STP), Low Cost Sanitation (LCS), River Front Development (RFD), setting up of Crematoria etc. This Centrally Sponsored Scheme is under implementation in 158 towns along polluted stretches of 32 rivers spread over 19 States at an approved cost of Rs. 4704 crore. During the last three years, Detailed Project Reports for 202 projects worth Rs. 1459 crore were sanctioned, 20 projects for STP, 45 projects for I&D and 149 other projects were completed. Sewage

treatment capacity of 695 million litres per day (mld) has been created and an expenditure of Rs. 779.54 crore incurred by Government of India for completion of the projects under the Plan during this period.

(c) and (d) Sewage Treatment Capacity of 1588 mld has been targeted for creation in the X Five Year Plan. Out of 1588 mld. 695 mld. capacity has been created in the first three years of X Plan. During 2005-06, action plan for creation of a total of 564.43 million litres per day (mld) of Sewage Treatment capacity has been drawn. Similarly, during 2006-07, the balance of 328.57 mld. of treatment capacity is proposed to be created. The cost of sharing of the works under NRCP between Central and State Government is in the ratio of 70:30.

Developing FP Units in M.P.

†557. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps being taken by Central Government for the development of food processing units in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any Central Scheme to set up such units in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the locations identified for setting up such units so that Madhya Pradesh could reap optimum benefit in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (c) Government has formulated and implemented several Plan Schemes for development of food processing industries in all States/UTs including Madhya Pradesh. These schemes provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Under the schemes for technology upgradation/ establishment/modernization of FPIs financial assistance @25% of the project cost in general areas and @33.33% in difficult areas is provided subject to a miximum of Rs. 50 lakh and Rs. 75 lakh respectively. So far 17 projects have been sanctioned assistance in M.P.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.